

The Research Review



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Photo of the week:



Each year, Representative Bill Dunn puts artwork from Knoxville's Bell Camp Elementary School and Halls High School on display in his legislative office. The creative pieces done by students at the schools are selected and sent to Rep. Dunn by the schools' art teachers.

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Agriculture

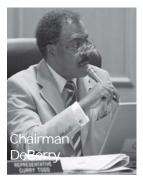
Jeremy Maxwell

Agriculture Committee met Tuesday to consider five bills on calendar. HB 2228 (Bibb) was referred to **FWM**. This bill removes prohibition on funds in the agricultural resources conservation fund being used for administrative purposes; authorizes the commissioner of agriculture to expend the funds as matching dollars to secure additional funding to fulfill the purposes for which the fund was established. HB 1592 (Bone) was referred to Calendar and Rules. This bill prohibits any political subdivision of the state from regulating the registration, packaging, labeling, sale, storage, distribution, use, and application of fertilizers. HB 389 (Crider) was taken off notice. It permits an unchartered and unlicensed individual to provide custom application of a pesticide with the active ingredient Glyphosate. HB 255 (Odom) was rolled three weeks. It adds swine to list of animals for which it is a Class E felony to own, train, or use for fighting for the purpose of amusement, sport, or gain. HJR 99 (Sargent) was rolled two weeks. It recognizes the importance of spaying and neutering pets.



Children & Family Affairs

Amelia Mitchell



The Children & Family Affairs Committee met Wednesday, March 28, and passed the following bills to Calendar & Rules:

HB 776 by Rep. Vaughn as amended changes present law by requiring any court to include an order in each order of parentage that requires the non-prevailing

party to pay into the court an amount equal to the fees required to process and issue a birth certificate. The clerk of court will be required to forward the money to the registrar of vital records. This will also apply in cases if parentage was not contested, and the person is being confirmed as the father of the child by the order of parentage.

HB 1498 by Rep. Coleman as amended removes the right of appeal, in delinquent and unruly cases, from any order approving a negotiated plea agreement that incorporates an agreed disposition when the child was represented by counsel at the time the negotiated plea agreement was entered into.

The following bill was passed to Finance Ways & Means:

HB 1614 by Rep. Overbey as amended prohibits the department of children's services, and any other state agency that administers funds related to the prevention, treatment, or care of unruly and delinquent juveniles, from expending state funds on any juvenile justice program or program related to the prevention, treatment, or care of unruly and delinquent juveniles, unless the program is evidence-based. For purposes of this bill, an evidence-based program is one for which there is consistent scientific evidence showing that the interventions improve client outcomes.

This bill also requires the department to continue the ongoing research and evaluation of sound, theory-based and research-based programs with the goal of identifying and expanding the number and type of available evidence-based programs.

The following bill was deferred one week:

HB 490 by Rep. Sontany

The following bill was deferred two weeks:

HB 321 by Chairman DeBerry

Domestic Relations Subcommittee

The **Domestic Relations Subcommittee** met on Tuesday, March 27th and the following bills were passed to full committee:

HB 546 by Rep. Hackworth as amended creates a rebuttable presumption, in any proceeding for a child support arrearage, that the information provided to the court upon entry of the order of support is correct unless an update in circumstances was submitted. This bill also creates a rebuttable inference in child support arrearage cases that the obligor is



capable of satisfying any arrearage for child support unless an update in circumstances was submitted.

HB 1523 by Rep. Campfield as amended provides that man proved by genetic testing not to be father of child is not liable for child support after receipt of such results.

The following bill failed for lack of a majority:

HB 793 by Rep. Campfield

The following bills were deferred one week:

HB 822 by Rep. Hood HB 1307 by Rep. West

The following bill was deferred three weeks:

HB 2051 by Rep. Brown



Children & Family Affairs

Amelia Mitchell

Family Justice Subcommittee

The **Family Justice Subcommittee** met on Tuesday, March 27th and the following bills were passed to full committee:

HB 179 by Rep. Cooper gives a 17-year-old child in foster care may petition a court to continue foster care to age 19. The child may petition for transitional services relating to educational or vocational programs, housing, case planning, and other relevant services.

HB 594 by Rep. Fincher as amended expands the offenses for which notice must be provided to include voluntary manslaughter, criminally negligent homicide, and vehicular homicide. Instead of requiring the sentencing court to order the youth service officer, probation officer, or the state agency to notify the school principal, this bill requires the sentencing court to order the department of children's services to provide the notice to local law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the school where the child will be enrolled, the school principal, and the director of schools. This bill replaces the provision that makes it a Class C misdemeanor to disclose information contained in the notice to any person other than the juvenile's classroom instructors with a requirement that the information be kept reasonably confidential by the recipients. This bill authorizes courts to punish any failure to send the notice in a timely manner as contempt of court

HB 1323 by West specifies that this requirement for information about employees includes information about subcontractors and independent contractors of the employer.

The following bill was deferred one week: **HB 1263 by Rep. Lynn**

The following bill was deferred two weeks:

HB 351 by Rep. Hardaway



Commerce

Matt Barnes

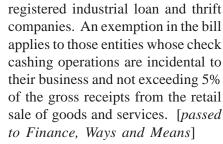
The **Commerce Committee** met Tuesday with six bills on calendar. The last bill, HB 1421, was again on calendar for hearing purposes only. At the end of the meeting, Chairman Curtiss announced the tentative plans to meet for two more weeks in full committee on this bill and to hold an additional meeting on Monday, April 9, at 12:00.

HB 259 (Bone) updates the electric safety code for supply stations from the 2001 version to the 2006 version. An amendment delays the effective date to January 1, 2008. [passed to Calendar and Rules as amended]

HB 260 (**Bone**) exempts from plumber licensing dealers of liquefied petroleum gas who perform plumbing work related to providing such gas in any residential or commercial building. An amendment further exempts natural gas operators. [passed to Calendar and Rules as amended]

HB 390 (Crider) requires a telemarketer to make calls from a telephone registered to a physical address and to use reasonable methods to make available to caller identification the soliciting entity's telephone number and name. The TRA is authorized to initiate proceedings for violations, the penalties for which include a fine of up to \$2,000 per knowing violation. [rolled one week]

HB 2238 (Pitts) removes the exemption from the Check Cashing Act for licensed money transmitters and



HB 2239 (Pitts) clarifies that if the commissioner of Financial Institutions

does not return an application for a certificate of authority to the applicant for corrections within the 10-day period after receipt, the application is deemed to have been filed. [passed to Calendar and Rules]

HB 1421 (McDaniel) enacts the "Competitive Cable and Video Services Act," requiring any entity seeking to provide cable or video service to apply with the secretary of state for a state-issued certificate of franchise authority, as opposed to seeking franchise authority with local govern-ments and municipalities.

This week, AT&T representatives Marty Dickens and Joelle Phillips continued to answer member questions from last week. In response to a question regarding rural access to broadband by Rep. McCormick, Phillips said "broadband to Tennessee is what the interstate was at one time." She said regardless of



this legislation all those in Tennessee that are currently in the BellSouth footprint will have broadband access by the end of this year. When asked by Rep. Towns what is currently preventing AT&T from entering the video services market, Phillips said nothing is currently preventing them from entering the market but that it is unattractive due to the high number of franchises required.

The Tennessee Municipal League then spoke in opposition to the bill. TML President and Murfreesboro Mayor Tommy Bragg said, in regard to comments that have been made, that cities don't regulate cable prices and the federal government has found the cities to be the best stewards of customer service. He further stated the bill weakens customer service. Regarding build-out requirements, he said they must be preserved and the bill allows for the circumvention and elimination of 50 years of local control. On the issue of competition, he agreed with the proponents of the bill that competition is good and said "all they have to do is ask."



Commerce

Matt Barnes

Mayor Bragg mentioned a recent FCC ruling stating that the current system is impeding competition and ordering that new rules and regulations be followed in order to correct the problems. He said this legislation is not necessary because the FCC claims the new rules and regulations, which the cities plan to follow, will cure the problems.

TML Deputy Director Chad Jenkins said this bill is not the product of negotiation because the cities were left out. He said the bill weakens consumer protection, limits municipal authority, and lowers municipal revenue.

The committee plans to continue the TML testimony next week, followed by counties and cable.

Industrial Impact Subcommittee

The **Industrial Impact Subcommittee** met Wednesday to hear 13 bills.

HB 316 (DeBerry, J.) establishes reimbursement and credentialing requirements for health care providers. [rolled three weeks]

HB 211 (Brown) requires all buildings built or altered after July 1, 2007, including those under the local government jurisdiction, to comply with the accessibility standards of the 2003 International Building Code and ANSI A117.1. [sent to summer study]

HB 800 (Jones, U.) allows a person holding a master's degree in engineering to sit for the eight-hour written engineering examination. Present law requires a person seeking certification to have graduated from a four-year undergraduate program and to have obtained four years' experience and certification as an engineering intern. This bill in its original form omits the engineering intern requirement, but the subcommittee adopted an amendment that adds it back. The subcommittee further adopted a second amendment that allows for rulemaking effective January 1, 2008. [rolled two weeks as amended]

HB 1005 (**Curtiss**) transfers the responsibilities of the Home Improvement Commission to the Board for Licensing Contractors. [taken off notice]

HB 1006 (Curtiss) transfers the responsibilities of the Home Improvement Commission to the Board for Licensing Contractors and creates a subcommittee of the Board to act as an advisory committee concerning home improvement contractors. Initially, the subcommittee shall be made up of the current members of the Commission. Chairman Curtiss said an amendment may be pending and that he would hold the bill in full committee. [passed to full committee]

HB 1482 (Fincher) extends the period of time for continuation of group insurance coverage that has been terminated because of divorce or death of the insured spouse. [rolled two weeks]

HB 2234 (DeBerry, L.) revises provisions governing the disclosure of information obtained under the Controlled Substance Monitoring Act. [rolled two weeks]

HB 315 (DeBerry, J.) establishes reimbursement and credentialing requirements for health care providers. [rolled three weeks]

HB 2081 (Maddox) exempts from the gross premium tax a self-insured pool created by an association in existence for 25 or more years of private, not-for-profit educational institutions. [rolled two weeks]

HB 2082 (Maddox), as amended, alters the self-insured pool requirements so that two or more employers of the same profession with at least 500 covered lives may create a self-insured pool. Present law allows 10 or more employers of the same profession to create a self-insured pool. [rolled two weeks as amended]

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Commerce

Matt Barnes

HB 1956 (Armstrong) enacts the "Motorcycle and Off-road Vehicle Dealer Fairness Act," imposing certain requirements on agreements between suppliers and retailers. Among other requirements, the bill requires a supplier to repurchase the inventory maintained by the retailer if the agreement is terminated. The bill further prohibits coercion or conditioning a sale of inventory to a dealer upon a requirement that the dealer purchase other goods. Several members questioned the need for this bill and for the state to get involved in such retail agreements. [rolled two weeks]

HB 1551 (Hackworth), as amended, sets the contract price at \$1 million for the improvement of real property related to water, sewage or energy services when an escrow amount must be set aside for the performance obligation of the owner or contractor. A second amendment limits the applicability of this bill to Oak Ridge. [rolled two weeks]

HR 60 (**Kernell**) urges the federal government to replace the Fast Track system so that U.S. trade agreements are developed and implemented using a more democratic and inclusive mechanism that enshrines the principles of federalism and State sovereignty. [passed to full committee]

<u>Utilities, Banking and Small Business</u> Subcommittee

The Utilities, Banking and Small Business Subcommittee met Tuesday with seven bills on calendar. Chairman Curtiss announced at the meeting that two of the bills previously moved from Industrial Impact to Utilities will be moved back by action on the House floor. He said while he might prefer that they remain in Utilities, his own bill in particular, they should be in Industrial Impact since they deal with pharmaceuticals.

HB 591 (Lundberg) prohibits robo calls for political contributions to those on the Do-Not-Call list. Exceptions are made for educational institutions, law

enforcement, and public health and safety officials. [rolled two weeks]

HB 1226 (Gilmore) requires refund anticipation loan contracts entered into between federal tax return preparers and consumers to contain the annual percentage rate of interest on the loan and to state the average time required for the consumer to receive such refund electronically. [rolled one week]



HB 415 (**Todd**) in its original form would repeal the locksmith licensing provisions of 2006. Rep. Todd introduced an amendment that would rewrite the bill to delay the current effective date of July 1, 2007, to January 1, 2009. [rolled one week]

HB 2259 (Odom) revises provisions associated with the licensing of funeral establishments, directors, and embalmers. [rolled three weeks]

HB 2287 (**Bibb**) reduces the membership of the Tennessee Technology Development Corporation from 24 to 22 members by removing the two members from the Tennessee Science and Technology Advisory Council. [passed to full committee]

HB 2233 (Fitzhugh) clarifies the circumstances under which the Commerce commissioner may suspend or revoke a registration to sell securities in the state. [rolled three weeks]

HB 749 (Harmon) allows licensed dealers to sell camping trailers and travel trailers at up to six shows per year that are

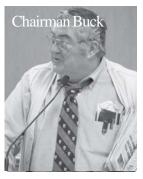
Rep. Harmon

approved by the Motor Vehicle Commission. [passed to full committee]



Conservation & Environment

Jeremy Maxwell



The Conservation and Environment Committee met Wednesday to consider nine bills on calendar. The following bills were **referred to** Calendar and Rules as amended: HB 224 (Moore) requires governor, in consultation with state departments, to develop a comprehensive state energy conservation plan.

HB 1156 (Buck) prohibits possession of fish or wildlife knowing that such fish or wildlife was acquired, taken, or transported from the state or country of origin in violation of such state's or country's law; a violation is a Class A misdemeanor.

The following bills were **referred to Calendar and Rules**:

HB 1811 (Tidwell) adds Bon Aqua Woods as a Class I—scenic-recreational area and Dry Branch as a Class II—natural-scientific area; revises acreage of Rugby scenic-recreational area from 323 to 445 acres.

HB 1157 (Buck) requires property declared contraband to be destroyed or delivered to the commissioner of general services and sold in the same manner as surplus property instead of destroyed or advertised and sold at the courthouse of the county where the property was seized.

The following bills were referred to FWM as amended:

HB 1935 (Rinks) expands West Tennessee River Basin Authority's geographical area to include certain creek and river basins flowing into the Tennessee River from the east.

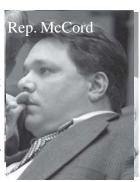
HB 145 (McDonald) requires land managed by TWRA to be open to access and use for recreational hunting, and that agency land management actions relative to such land not result in any net loss of available acreage for hunting opportunities.

HB 966 (Overbey) provides that veterans with 30 percent or more service-connected disability, instead of more restrictive 30 percent or more combat-related disability, are eligible for free sport fishing and hunting license.

HJR 157 (Cooper) was **taken off notice**. This resolution creates special joint committee to study feasibility of establishing a residential school or summer camp for disadvantaged youth at T.O. Fuller State Park.

Wildlife Subcommittee

Wildlife Subcommittee met Tuesday to consider three bills, rolling all of them for one week. **HB 1793** (McCord) increases amount paid to TWRA for mussels harvested in the waters of Tennessee from \$0.0145 per



pound of mussel shells or \$.0124 per pound of mussels, shell with meat, purchased or obtained to \$.10 per pound of mussel shells or \$.10 per pound of mussels, shell with meat, purchased or obtained. **HB 1794** (McCord) establishes \$3.00 per pound fee on roe to be imposed on buyers of roe taken from commercial roe fish species harvested from Tennessee waters. **HB 2181** (Hackworth) lowers hunting and fishing licensing fees for nonresident family members of persons with a lifetime sportsman license.

Parks and Tourism Subcommittee

Parks Subcommittee met Tuesday to consider two bills on calendar. HB 1158 (Buck) was referred to full committee as amended. The amended bill clarifies laws related to boating regulation and safety, updates boating laws to account for new technologies, and increases boating under the influence penalties for first and second time offenders. HB 2288 (Gilmore) was referred to full committee. This bill authorizes use of revenues produced from the sale of environmental plate for making grants to state universities for development of new methods of treating pests that threaten trees and other vegetation at parks; revises provisions for grants from the local parks land acquisition fund.

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Conservation & Environment

Jeremy Maxwell

Environment Subcommittee

The Environment Subcommittee met Wednesday to consider six bills and to hear a presentation on global warming. The following bills were **referred to full committee as amended**:

HB 700 (McCord) specifies that the limitation on selling a residence with more bedrooms than are permitted by the sewage disposal system permit applies only to new construction, and specifies that real estate agents violate the statute only if they have actual, not constructive, knowledge of the violation.

HB 1218 (McDonald) requires the comptroller of the treasury to conduct a performance audit of those agencies and departments responsible for conservation of energy, the study and production of alternative sources of energy, and energy security by January 8, 2008, and every five years thereafter.

The following bills were rolled one week:

HB 1163 (Sontany) enacts "Manufacturer Responsibility and Consumer Convenience Information Technology Equipment Collection and Recovery Act". HB 1300 (West) exempts certain properties with existing septic tank from obtaining a new subsurface sewage disposal system permit when constructing a residence on such property.

HB 865 (Harrison) was rolled two weeks. This bill excludes narrow run-off ditches from the definition of waters for purposes of the Water Quality Control Act. HB 745 (Curtiss) was taken off notice. This bill authorizes the department of environment and conservation to regulate excess and wasteful water leakage at public water systems.

The committee also heard a presentation on global warming by Dr. Gregg Marland, Environmental Sciences Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory.



Consumer & Employee Affairs

Lucy Wilson

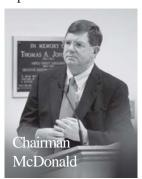
The <u>Employee Affairs Subcommittee</u> had no bills on calendar this week.

Of the two bills in the <u>Consumer Affairs</u> <u>Subcommittee</u> one was rolled and one passed to the full committee. **HB 55 by Turner M**, addressing redemption of gift certificates for some percentage of cash, was rolled two weeks to the April 10, 2007 subcommittee calendar.

HB 1337 by Briley, revising various provisions relative to charitable organizations, passed to the full committee. Among the changes in the provision are:

- 1) Three (3) new exemptions from the registration requirement that are already subject to regulation by other government agencies, political parties, hospitals, and corporations established by an act of Congress; and
- 2) An increase to \$500,000 the amount of gross revenue collected before an audited financial statement is required.

This bill is followed by an amendment that extends to ninety (90) days the time to file a renewal application; allows the secretary to require copies of all forms needed to file with the IRS to substantiate how funds were raised and spent by the organization; and deletes the requirement that the signature on the application of a professional solicitor be notarized.



Full Committee

The <u>House Consumer & Employee Affairs Committee</u> rolled the following three (3) bills: 1. **HB 2139 by Pruitt**, making it a Class B misdemeanor to violate the Fundraising for Catastrophic Illnesses statute

and adds a Class B misdemeanor offense to distribute trust funds raised for catastrophic illnesses – rolled one (1) week;

- 2. **HB 1983 by DuBois**, adds local law enforcement agencies to the Department of Labor as agencies that enforce the statute prohibiting the hiring of illegal immigrants rolled two (2) weeks; and
- 3. **HB 24 by Shepard**, allows consumers to place a freeze on the release of information from a consumer credit report rolled one (1) week.

The following three (3) bills passed Consumer & Employee Affairs Committee and were referred to Finance, Ways & Means:

1. **HB 200 by Odom** enacts the Credit Security Act of 2007. Under the amendment adopted in full committee a Tennessee consumer may freeze his/her credit report prohibiting the agency from releasing the report without the consumer's authorization. However, the agency may advise a third party that a freeze is in effect. The consumer may request the freeze be temporarily lifted when they want to grant access to a third party. The consumer reporting agency may charge up to \$5.00 to place the freeze unless the consumer is a victim of identity theft; in which case, the freeze is free.

The following are four (4) of the situations in which the freeze does not apply to use of a consumer report; (partial list) 1) creditor-debtor relationship; 2) anyone acting pursuant to a court order, warrant or subpoena; 3) any department or division of state investigating necessary cases; and (4) collecting information necessary to adjust or underwrite insurance.

Specific dollar amounts are set out for failure to comply with the statute. Every consumer shall be provided with the "Tennessee Consumers Have the Right to Obtain a Security Freeze" explaining the consumer's rights. Anyone engaged in any business shall make reasonable efforts to protect a consumer's social security number. Effective date is January 1, 2008.

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Consumer & Employee Affairs

Lucy Wilson

- **2. HB 2265 by Turner M** changes the date unemployment compensation premiums are determined from July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007.
- 3. **HB 2305 by Turner M** authorizes persons who receive wages in lieu of notice to also receive unemployment compensation and removes the requirement that a person who receives a back pay award must repay unemployment benefits.

The following four (4) bills passed out of committee to Calendar and Rules:

1. **HB 288 by Moore** clarifies that the sale of second hand mattresses be prohibited by mattress manufacturers, wholesalers, or retailers whose sole business is the sale of mattresses to the exclusion of any and all other items.

Two amendments adopted in committee rewrite the bill. The amended bill will prohibit the sale of second mattresses unless they are tagged as secondhand. This includes any and all materials used in the construction of the mattress, as well. In addition to being a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, selling a secondhand mattress without a tag would be subject to the following fines: (1) For a first offense, a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine only of \$50.00; (2) For a second offense, a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by a fine only of \$500; and (3) For a third or subsequent offense, a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine only of \$2,500. Non-profit organizations are exempt.

This does not prohibit a consumer from returning a defective mattress pursuant to the warranty if the mattress is new.

2. **HB 1274 by Lynn** prohibits the use of a federal individual taxpayer identification number as a form of identification to prove immigration status. The bill was amended to exclude any financial institution that uses an individual taxpayer identification number as a form of identification subject to Section 326 of the USA Patriot Act and implementing regulations.



- 3. **HB 2241 by Turner M** authorizes the use of a delivery service as an alternative to certified mail in when the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development issues a citation for violation of occupational safety and health provisions.
- 4. **HB 2266 by Turner M** requires the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to regulate moving walks in the same manner as they do elevators, dumbwaiters and escalators.





Education

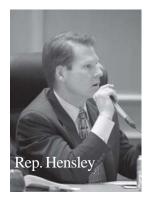
Pam Mason

The Education Committee met on Wednesday to



consider its calendar and hear two presentations. Commissioner Matt Kisber, Department of Economic and Community Development, addressed the committee on the impact of education on economic development. Commissioner Susan R. Cooper, Department of Health, shared her concerns with various bills allowing volunteers to administer certain medications to

students in public schools.



Action on the committee calendar follows:

Referred to Calendar & Rules: HB 1866 – (Hensley) requires the commissioner of education to report annually to the education committees of both houses the number of homeless children who enter public school without immunization or proof of

immunization. The report shall also include the average length of time before these students are immunized, or proof of such, is received.

HB 1966 – (**Armstrong**) authorizes members of the state school bond authority to appoint designees to serve in a member's place as a trustee of the chairs of excellence endowment trust fund.

Referred to Finance, Ways & Means:

HJR 200 – (Winningham) directs the select oversight committee on education to hold hearings on providing health care to students in the public schools in Tennessee.

HB 1257 – (**Fitzhugh**) directs the University of Tennessee and the Tennessee Board of Regents to develop policies regarding textbooks and course

materials on their campuses. Faculty members are to submit required texts and material to on-campus bookstores in a timely matter and make this information available on the institution's website. On-campus bookstores are to provide faculty the costs to students for required material. Faculty members are to consider the least expensive editions of materials required. Copies of required textbooks are to be available through the academic department or through the reserve system of the institution's library.

Deferred 1 week:

HB 2147 – (Coley)

HB 99 - (Brooks)

HB 1069 – (Winningham)

HB 1731 – (Winningham)

HB 1734 – (Winningham)

HB 2070 - (Maddox)

HB 445 – (Winningham)

HB 124 – (Windle)

HB 2075 - (Maddox)

HB 1733 – (Winningham)

 $HB\,932-(Winningham)$

HB 1945 – (Winningham)

Deferred 2 weeks:

HB 1251 - (Odom)

HB 1947 - (Swafford)

HB 950 – (Winningham)

HB 1467 – (Fitzhugh)

Deferred to last calendar:

HB 2073 – (Maddox)

Taken off Notice:

HB 1863 – (Swafford)

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Education

Pam Mason



Higher Ed Subcommittee

The Higher Ed Subcommittee met on Wednesday and considered its calendar. Action follows:

Referred to Full Committee:

HB 14 – (**Curtiss**) students who are in the national guard or military reserves and are

mobilized to active duty would receive a tuition freeze under certain conditions.

HB 15 – (**Curtiss**) adds two categories, Navy Submarine Combat Patrol and SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia to list of medals under which dependent children and spouses can qualify for tuition and fee waivers at state supported higher education institutions.

HB 2076 – (**Maddox**) requires that a criminal background check be done on any student entering a teacher training program. The student shall pay for the cost of the check.

HB 952 – (Winningham) requires the University of Tennessee system and the Tennessee Board of Regents system to adopt policies recognizing the international baccalaureate diploma programme.

Deferred 1 week:

HB 761 – (Matheny)

HB 1596 - (Shepard)

Deferred 2 weeks:

HB 886 - (Montgomery)

HB 9919 – (Fitzhugh)

HB 447 – (Winningham)

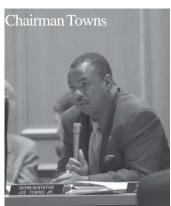
Taken off Notice:

HB 1362 – (Kernell)

K-12 Subcommittee

The K-12 Subcommittee met on Tuesday to consider its calendar. Action follows:

Referred to Full Committee: **HB** 1271 – (Lynn) requires school personnel to report suspicion of drug offenses by students to principal and in the absence



of the principal, allows a report be made to appropriate authority of offenses on school property.

HB 1765 – (**Jones, U.**) the department of education is required to hold a study of feasibility of LEAs having a school district police department. A report is due no later than January 15, 2008.

HB 358 – (**Winningham**) public school teachers who received a master's degree in their subject area would receive an annual \$3,000 salary supplement.

HB 1942 – (Winningham) requires an annual report from each LEA to the department of education on employment standards for school resource officers.

HB 951 – (Winningham) changes terms of members of the state board of education from nine years to five years.

Referred to Full Committee, if amended:



Education

Pam Mason

HB 1312 – (West) encourages LEAs to seek free or reduced-cost eye examinations from doctors willing to donate services for children unable to afford such tests. Revenues from gifts, grants and government appropriations may be used to provide eye exams for children whose parents are unable to afford to do so.

HB 615 – (**Turner, M.**) bans the use of trans fat in school nutrition programs. The ban will not apply to any fast food establishment that may be on school property.

HB 337 – (Hackworth) the department of education is directed to consider adding various school safety issues in the lifetime wellness curriculum.

HB 881 – (Johnson, P.) student discipline hearings are exempt from the Open Meetings Law unless the student or their parent request it to be conducted as an open meeting. If such a meeting is closed, then only that topic may be discussed or acted upon during that time. The department of children's services, working in its official capacity, shall not be excluded from these hearings.

Deferred 1 week:

HB 1437 - (DeBerry, J.)

HB 1418 – (Watson)

HB 403 – (Jones, S.)

Deferred 2 weeks:

HB 51 – (Turner, M.)

HB 483 – (Coley)

Deferred 4 weeks:

HB 52 – (Turner, M.)

Taken off Notice:

HB 1012 – (Brown)





Julie Travis & Patrick Boggs



The Full Committee

The House Finance, Ways, and Means committee met on Tuesday, March 27th to hear twenty-one bills presented before the committee as well as budget hearings for three departments. All bills but one were sent to Calendar and Rules. **HB 1465** by Chairman Fitzhugh was deferred for two weeks

at the request of the sponsor.

The following bills were referred to Calendar and Rules:

HB 6 (Rep. Bone) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates a certain segment of US Highway 231 from the Wilson County – Rutherford County boundary to such highway's intersection with the City of Lebanon Public Square as the "Sergeant Claude R. Walls Memorial Highway". The late Sergeant Walls was a Korean War hero and the designating marker shall say as much. The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for the legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.

HB7 (**Rep. Bone**) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates a certain bridge on US Highway 70 in Wilson County as the "Edsel Cordell Floyd Bridge". Mr. Floyd is a devoted and proficient civic leader of the Watertown community. The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.

HB 335 (Rep. K. Brooks) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates a certain segment of the bypass known as APD 40 in the City of Cleveland and Bradley County (which bypass includes segments of U.S. Highway 64, U.S. Highway 74, S.R. 311, and S.R. 60) as the Veterans Memorial Highway. The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.

HB 202 (Rep. Dean) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates a certain bridge on U.S. Highway 41/U.S.

Highway 76 in Hamilton County as the Fred Pruett Memorial Bridge. The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.

HB 281 (Rep. Dean) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates the bridge spanning Interstate 75 (at Exit 1) on U.S. Highway 41/U.S Highway 76 in Hamilton County as the Jack Sharp Memorial Bridge, in memory of late Representative Sharp of East Ridge, who served the 30th House District and Hamilton County for six terms (99th through 104th General Assemblies) as a member of the TN House of Representatives. The cost for enacting this piece of legislation will be paid out of the Highway Fund.

HB 385 (Rep. Dean) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates a certain segment of S.R. 320 in Hamilton County from such route's intersection with Morris Hill Road to its intersection with S.R. 321 (Ooltewah-Ringgold Road) as the Deputy Donald Bond Memorial Highway. A two-year veteran of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Bond died in the line of duty. The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with TCA§ 54-1-133.

HB 1474 (Rep. Fitzhugh) restricts refunds of hearing costs assessed against a taxpayer filing an appeal of a property tax ruling to those instances in which the appeal is withdrawn or settled at least one week prior to a hearing.

HB 1776 (Rep. U. Jones) shifts the responsibility for imposing civil penalties for ethics violations committed by employees of the General Assembly and any employee of an executive department or agency from the Tennessee Ethics Commission to the Speakers of the House and Senate if such person is employed by the General Assembly and the appropriate supervising official if the person is an employee of any executive department or agency.



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HB 210 (Rep. Lundberg) – hwy sign bill – This legislation designates a certain bridge being constructed to span the Norfolk Southern Railway in U.S. Highway 421 in the City of Bristol, Sullivan County as the Anderson Street Memorial Bridge. The Bristol City Council requested this bridge be named in honor of all those brave sons and daughters of Bristol who have sacrificed their lives through service to their country. The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.

HB 900 (Rep. Maggart) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates the bridge spanning the East Fork of Station Camp Creek on S.R. 174 in Sumner County as the Corporal Lance Tyler Overstreet Memorial Bridge. Cpl. Overstreet was serving in the USMC when he was killed while serving in Iraq. The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with TCA§ 54-1-133.

HB 937 (Rep. Maggart) – hwy sign bill – This bill designates the new bridge spanning U.S. Highway 31E (S.R. 6) on S.R. 386 (Vietnam Veterans Boulevard) in Sumner County as the Korean Veterans Memorial Bridge. The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.

HB 913 (Rep. Maggart) authorizes a referendum on legalizing liquor-by-the-drink in the portion of Goodlettsville that is in Sumner County without affecting liquor-by-the-drink licenses in the portion of Goodlettsville that is in Davidson County.

HB 227 (Rep. Moore) increases from \$100 to \$150 the fine for unauthorized use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities. It further requires the Commissioner of Finance and Administration to report every five (5) years to the Chief Clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives the percentage change in the average Consumer Price Index, for purposes of adjusting the statutory fine for this offense.

HB 216 (Rep. Odom) increases from \$5,000 to \$10,000 the bid limit for which newspaper advertisements are required for county purchases.

HB 1606 (Rep. Odom) changes the start of the registration year for lobbyists and employers of lobbyists from October 1st to January 1st; it also permits employers of lobbyists to download the Ethics Commission Manual for Lobbyists and Employers of Lobbyists from the commission's website.

HB 872 (Rep. Rinks) authorizes the cities of Gilt Edge and Burlison, in Tipton County to fix the date of municipal elections to coincide with the regular November election.



HB 1930 (Rep. Rinks) – hwy

sign – This bill designates a certain segment of S.R. 224 in McNairy County from such route's intersection with S.R. 142 to such route's intersection with Elzie Pounds Road as the Clay Wagoner Highway. The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.

HB 101 (Rep. Winningham), as amended in the House Education Committee, creates the Jason Flatt Act of 2007, which would require that in-service training for teachers and principals include at least two hours of suicide prevention education each school year. This education may be accomplished through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials.

HB 102 (Rep. Winningham) – hwy sign – This legislation designates a certain segment of S.R. 53 in Clay County from the Clay County – Jackson County boundary to a point one mile north of such boundary as the "Frank B. Halsell Memorial Highway". The Finance Committee amended the bill to have the state pay for this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds will come from the Highway Fund.



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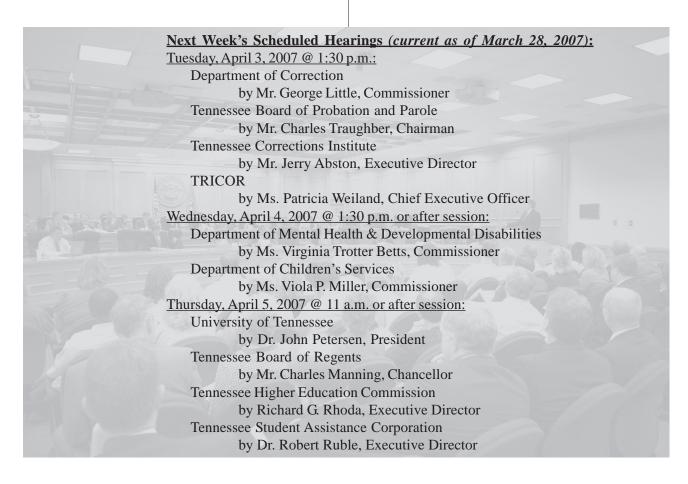
HB 103 (Rep. Winningham) designates a certain segment of SR 53 in Clay County beginning at the northern side of the Obey River Bridge to a point one mile north of such bridge as the Joe A. Clark Memorial Highway. Designating signs shall be erected only if nonstate funds are used to manufacture and erect such signs. The late Mr. Clark was a former member of the TN House of Representatives, having served constituents in Clay, Fentress, Overton, Pickett, and Putnam counties from 1959-1962 in the 81st and 82nd GA. As amended in House Transportation Committee, the implementation of the bill would be paid for out of the Highway Fund, as Mr. Clark was a former member of the Tennessee House of Representatives.

We heard from the Commissioner of Agriculture (Cmsr. Ken Givens) and the Attorney General and Reporter (A.G. Bob Cooper) as they both presented their

departmental budgets on Tuesday. The committee ran out of time before hearing the Dept. of Labor and Workforce's budget, which will have to be rescheduled at a date and time to be determined and announced later.

The committee also met on Wednesday, March 28, 2007, to hear from the Departments of Health (Cmsr. Susan Cooper) and Human Services (Cmsr. Gina Lodge). Thursday's budget hearings resume as we look forward to hearing from Cmsr. Lana Seivers in the Dept. of Education (K-12) and Dr. Gary Nixon, the Executive Director of the Tennessee State Board of Education.

Budget Hearings continue next week. The House budget hearings may be observed on-line through the video streaming available on the legislature's website, at http://www.legislature.state.tn.us.





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The Budget Subcommittee

The Budget Subcommittee of the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee met on Wednesday, March 21, 2006, with 30 bills on calendar.

Subcommittee Actions for these bills are as follows:

Deferred for one week:

HB 1035 – Rep. Cobb

HB 0393 - Rep. Hensley

HB 2092 – Rep Maddox (as amended with Budget Sub. Amdt. No. 1)

Deferred for two weeks:

HB 1280 - Rep. Lynn

Deferred for four weeks:

HB 1906 – Rep. Rinks

HB 0063 - Rep. M. Turner

Behind the Budget

HB 1502 – Rep. Coleman

HB 0157 – Rep. Curtiss

HB 0738 – Rep. Curtiss

HB 0464 – Rep. Fitzhugh

HB 0677 - Rep. Harrison

HB 1856 – Rep. Litz

HB 1220 - Rep. McDonald

HB 0071 - Rep. M. Turner

HB 0612 - Rep. M. Turner

HB 1072 - Rep. M. Turner

HB 1071 - Rep. M. Turner

HB 0915 - Rep. Windle

Referred to full committee:

HB 1335 (Rep. Briley), as amended in House Transportation Cmte., increases penalties for violations of yielding the right of way, that would cause serious personal physical injury or death. This amendment increases violation of the right of way that results in serious bodily injury from a Class C to a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$250 and a possible driver license suspension of up to six (6) months. If death results from such a violation, the offense is a Class A misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$500

and a possible driver license suspension of up to a year.

HB 460 (Chairman Fitzhugh) amends the Other Post-Employment Benefit Investment Trust Act of 2006 by limiting local governments' authority regarding certain investment vehicles and outlining the State Funding Board's role in approving the trust document. This bill prohibits the investment company for a political subdivision, where an investment trust has been established for the purpose of pre-funding post employment benefit investments for employees of the political subdivision, from adopting an investment policy that authorizes assets in the trust to be invested in any instrument, obligation, security, or property that would not constitute a legal investment for assets of Tennessee domestic life insurance companies. Also, under this bill, only the trust document, and not the written plan of benefits, the investment policy, or any other information or documentation, would be submitted to the state funding board. Furthermore, it specifies that responsibility for ensuring that the trust conforms to IRS laws, rules, and regulations would rest solely with the political subdivision.

HB 465 (Chairman Fitzhugh) is the TCRS omnibus/ technical corrections bill, making various changes to the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System, relative to provisions governing service in the system and other housekeeping measures required each year. The bill makes various changes to the state's deferred compensation program and the other posts benefits (OPEB) program. As amended in the Council on Pensions and Insurance, this bill authorizes the cost for implementing the Concord Project to be paid from earnings of the funds of TCRS, stating "No cost associated with the on-going maintenance of such improvements, or the state personnel necessary for maintaining such improvements shall be funded pursuant to this section" and it also makes the Concord Project subject to funding being provided in the appropriations bill. As stated in the bill, this funding arrangement shall end on June 30, 2012. The State Treasurer is directed in this bill to report no less than semi-annually to the Council on Pensions and Insurance on the status and funding requirements of the Concord



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Project to be paid from earnings of the funds of TCRS, stating "No cost associated with the on-going maintenance of such improvements, or the state personnel necessary for maintaining such improvements shall be funded pursuant to this section" and it also makes the Concord Project subject to funding being provided in the appropriations bill. As stated in the bill, this funding arrangement shall end on June 30, 2012. The State Treasurer is directed in this bill to report no less than semi-annually to the Council on Pensions and Insurance on the status and funding requirements of the Concord Project.

HB 557 (Rep. Hensley) designates the bridge spanning the Buffalo River on S.R. 99 in the Riverside Community of Lewis County as the "Luther and Marvin Patton Memorial Bridge". As amended by the Budget Subcommittee, the state will pay for the cost of this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds shall come from the Highway Fund.

HB 558 (Rep. Hensley) designates the bridge spanning the Big Bigbee River on U.S. Highway 43 in Maury County as the "Spencer Holman Memorial Bridge". As amended by the Budget Subcommittee, the state will pay for the cost of this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds shall come from the Highway Fund.

HB 903 (Rep. Hill) designates a segment of S.R. 93 in Washington County from such route's intersection with Interstate 81 at Exit 50 northward to the Washington County - Sullivan County boundary as the "PFC Nilon K. Bacon Memorial Highway". US Army PFC



Bacon was killed in combat while serving in Vietnam on May 26, 1968 during the Vietnam War. In accordance with TCA §54-1-133, the state shall pay for the cost of signage and marking the highway out of the highway fund.

HB 1219 (Rep. McDonald) authorizes the registration of a privately-owned trailer that is not required to be registered but the owner desires it to be registered. This bill authorizes the issuance of personalized license plates for such trailers, and as amended in House Transportation, it defines what a personalized trailer plate is. Funds raised from the plates would be placed in a fund to develop and maintain

public horseback riding trails.

HB 270 (Rep. Mumpower) divides the Board of Occupational and Physical Therapy Examiners into the Board of Occupational Therapy and the Board of Physical Therapy. Amended in Health and Human Resources, it adds authorization to the Board of Occupational Therapy to deny, restrict, or condition the licensure



of a person, or take disciplinary action against a person, based upon disciplinary action against such person by another state.

HB 2209 (Rep. Roach) designates the overpass spanning U.S. Highway 25E on U.S. Highway 11W in Grainger County as the "W. I. Daniel Overpass". As amended by the Budget Subcommittee, the state will pay for the cost of this piece of legislation. The fiscal note designates that such funds shall come from the Highway Fund.

HB 717 (Chairman Tindell) authorizes the commissioners of certain utility districts to be compensated at a rate of up to \$300 per meeting up to 12 times per year.

HB 1827 (Rep. M. Turner) removes the provisions of law that authorized the issuance of certificates of driving. This administration bill authorizes the issuance of new temporary driver licenses for persons whose presence in the U.S. has been authorized by the federal government. This bill is included in the Governor's FY07-08 budget.



Julie Travis & Patrick Boggs

BUDGET HEARINGS

Department of Agriculture by Patrick Boggs

On Tuesday, Commissioner Ken Givens presented the budget of the Agriculture Department to the committee. This department is organized into four working divisions, Administration and Grants, Market Development, Regulatory Services, and the Forestry division. Agriculture is vital to this state, accounting for at least 20% of economic activity; and there are 84,000 farms in Tennessee.

Tennessee has had more beef producers participate in the Beef Quality Assurance program than any other state in the nation. The department pays part of the costs of attending this course. The department has provided grants for genetic testing and handling equipment of cattle. It has also provided 309 cost share grants to farmers to build hay storage units.

The governor recommended several improvements in his budget for this year.

- \$4,092,100 for new radios for forestry officials
- \$500,000 to promote organic agriculture
- \$5,000,000 in the Agriculture Enhancement Program, which, with the \$6,000,000 provided by the General Assembly last year to this program, would almost double their funding
- \$2,250,000 restoration of funds to soil conservation in the Agricultural Resources Conservation Fund. These funds are a pro rata share from the real estate transfer tax.

The total budget for the department and its 904 employees is recommended to be \$96,944,900. The state funding component to this is \$76,969,200, with an additional \$11,069,200 of federal funding added. The remainder comes from other sources.

Department of Health by Patrick Boggs

Commissioner Susan Cooper presented the budget of the Department of Health to the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee Wednesday. The base budget for this agency totals \$569,867,900, which is a blend of 30% state funding, 49% federal dollars, with the remaining 21% coming from other sources.

She detailed a total of seven improvements to her budget:

- \$15,000,000 for tobacco use prevention. This item would be funded from the governor's proposed cigarette tax increase.
- \$8,175,800, which when combined with matching federal dollars, would purchase a stockpile of 1,484,773 doses of medication in the case of a pandemic flu outbreak.
- \$4,332,700 to provide additional funding for the prevention and care of HIV/AIDS. Some of this funding is targeted towards populations with high incidence rates in this disease.
- \$2,000,000 for Meharry Medical College to provide grants in the "Wellness for Our Community...Fitness is Our Future" program to improve physical fitness to black college students.
- \$1,000,000 from the Health Access Incentive Account reserves to provide increased access to health care in underserved areas.
- \$275,000 to add funds to the poison control center.
- \$40,700 to provide an additional assistant to the Board of Occupational and Physical Therapy Examiners.



Government Operations

Kristina Ryan

Government Operations

The House Government Operations Committee met on Wednesday morning to consider 37 bills on the calendar. Because of time constraints, only a portion of the calendar was completed.

The majority of the bills that were on the calendar were for review and referral.

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The following bills were rolled for one week:

HB 59 – by Representative Mike Turner

HB 741 - by Representative Curtiss **HB 1126** – by Representative Buck

The following bills passed to the Calendar and Rules Committee:

HB 2316 by Representative Moore – This legislation transfers the responsibilities of managing the state building Energy Management Program and Revolving Retrofit Fund from the Department of General Services to the Department of Finance and Administration.

HB 1223 by Representative Gilmore – Under current law, the Governor must strive to ensure that appointments made to boards and commissions must include at least one person over 60 years of age and one member that is of a racial minority. This legislation would require the governor to also include a member that is female.

The following bills were in committee for rulemaking purposes only and were sent to the appropriate standing committees with a positive recommendation:

HB 842 – Rep. Pruitt – Health and Human Resources Committee

 $\boldsymbol{HB~1221}-Rep.~Gilmore-State~and~Local$

Government Committee

HB 1850 – Rep. Todd – State and Local
Government Committee

HB 1984 – Rep. Larry Turner – Commerce Committee

HB 374 – Rep. Briley – Education Committee

HB 1159 – Rep. Buck – Conservation and Environment Committee

HB 1948 – Rep. Sherry Jones – Commerce Committee

HB 2257 - Rep. Odom - Commerce Committee

HB 2263 - Rep. Odom - Judiciary Committee

HB 2219 - Rep. Lynn - State and Local

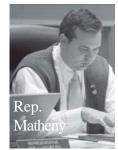
Government Committee

HB 1190 – Rep. Shepard – Health and Human Resources

Other Legislation

The committee reviewed and referred **HB 2256** by Representative Sontany to the Commerce Committee with a positive recommendation. This bill requires blasters in charge to maintain drilling logs and also includes additional requirements for air blasting. An amendment placed on the bill would stipulate that the initial promulgation of rules would be public necessity rules but any future rulemaking would be completed through the regular rulemaking process.

HB 1481 by Representative Matheny was reviewed and referred to the Commerce Committee with a positive recommendation. This legislation requires that all municipal, county and state employed plumbing and mechanical inspectors be licensed by the State Fire Marshal. An amendment added to the bill makes the rulemaking portion of the



bill effective upon becoming law while the remainder of the bill would become effective July 1, 2008.

HB 1971 by Representative Armstrong was reviewed and referred to the Health and Human Resources Committee with a positive recommendation. This legislation creates the Tennessee Alzheimer's Disease Task Force. This entity would be comprised of nineteen members and will submit a report of their findings to the Governor and to the General Assembly by February 15, 2008. In addition, the Commission on Aging and Disability will provide administrative support to the task force. An amendment placed on the bill specifies which organizations will be represented on the board and changes the implementation date from February 15, 2008 to February 15, 2009.



Health & Human Resources

Judy Narramore

Full Committee

The Health & Human Resources Committee met Tuesday, March 27, 2007, with seven bills on calendar. Two bills were on the calendar in error, HB 0896 (Sargent) and HB 1892 (J. DeBerry); Chairman Armstrong referred both to the appropriate subcommittee. Rep. Moore requested that HB 0230 be taken off notice. Rep. S. Jones requested to roll HB 1183 (domestic violence reporting) one week.

Two bills were referred to Calendar & Rules:

HB 1679 (Eldridge) revises existing statute relative to employment qualifications for surgical technologists to allow a person to be employed as a surgical technologist if such person was either employed as a surgical technologist for 18 months in the three years preceding this bill's effective date in a hospital, medical office, surgery center, or accredited school of surgical technology or in training to be a surgical technologist prior to this bill's effective date and the training will be completed within three years.

HB 2318 (L. DeBerry) as amended revises existing law relative to the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program, i.e., Families First. This legislation is needed to incorporate changes in federal regulations related to Families First and to streamline components of the Families First Program.

One bill was referred to Finance, Ways & Means:

Rep. DeBerry

HB 1557 (Shepard) as amended enacts the "Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act." As amended, this bill revises existing procedures within provisions of the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, including retaining the traditional "opt-in" consent, strengthening rights of donors, and expanding the list of deceased's survivors who can consent to a donation. The amendment removes the Class E felony classification from the printed bill. Rep. Pruitt questioned whether there could be an educational component in this legislation that

would inform the general public about organ donation and anatomical gifts.

At the conclusion of the calendar, Chairman Armstrong reminded members to put their bills on notice so that the subcommittees could close by mid-April. Accordingly, the Chairman announced that the three roll limit will be enforced and that for the next few weeks, a portion of the full committee meeting time may be devoted to the subcommittees.

Public Health & Family Assistance Subcommittee

The **Public Health & Family Assistance Subcommittee** met immediately following full committee on Tuesday, March 27th with 11 bills on calendar, including the Addendum. Two bills were referred to full committee. **HB 0184 (Cooper)** authorizes appropriately trained health department employees to take the blood pressure of an individual without an order from a physician. **HB 1406 (Cooper)** removes from statute the authority to automatically use public necessity rules related to the

TennCare program. **Rep. Mumpower** presented **HB 0869** that authorizes the unclaimed body of a person delivered to a public official for disposal at public expense to be cremated after the chief medical examiner makes a good faith attempt to notify the next of kin. Chairlady Pruitt requested to roll the bill one week for consideration of an amendment to clarify the language,

"reasonably be discovered," in the printed bill. HB 1580 (Hensley) related to HPV vaccine failed on voice vote. The remaining bills on calendar were either rolled or taken off notice, as follow: HB 0371 (Shepard) off notice, HB 0244 (Shepard) rolled two weeks, HB 0748 (Curtiss) off notice, HB 2041 (Shaw) rolled one week, HB 1011 (Brown) rolled two weeks, HB 1383 (S. Jones) rolled one week, and HB 0254 (Odom) off notice.

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Health & Human Resources

Judy Narramore

Health Care Facilities Subcommittee

The Health Care Facilities Subcommittee met Wednesday, March 28, 2007, to consider two bills, referring both to full committee. HB 0222 (Moore) as amended requires the infections task force established by the Department of Health in response to Chapter 323 of the Public Acts of 2005 to report on methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) to the General Assembly annually for three years beginning in 2008. HB 1604 (Shepard) as amended allows a professional permitted by Department of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities rules to authorize isolation or restraint of persons with mental illness or serious emotional disturbance in certain situations, and requires a professional authorized by Department of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities rules to evaluate the person's condition within one hour of the intervention.

Professional Occupations Subcommittee

The Professional Occupations Subcommittee met Wednesday afternoon, March 28th with six bills on calendar, including the Addendum. Three bills were referred to full committee. HB 0033 (J. DeBerry) as amended expands the definition of the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene to include taking an impression of human teeth leading to the fabrication of a cosmetic metal apparatus to be worn in the human mouth, i.e., a "grill." HB 0823 (Kernell) requires an applicant for licensure as an audiologist, on or after January 1, 2008, to have a doctoral degree rather than a master's degree. HB 0964 (Overbey) was debated at length and ultimately referred 8-3 on a roll call vote. As amended, HB 0964 revises existing referral requirements for patient access to physical therapy services. Amendment 2 adopted 6-5 on a roll call vote prohibits a physical therapist from performing spinal adjustments. The remaining three bills on calendar were rolled one week: HB 0233 (Overbey), HB 1217 (Fincher), and HB 1197 (Pinion).





Judiciary

Jamie Wyatt

The Full Judiciary Committee

The Full Judiciary Committee rolled all the bills on the calendar for one week due to a lack of quorum. Below is a list of all the bills rolled

for one week:

HB 02 by Rep. Maddox

HB 105 by Rep. Shepard

HB 123 by Rep. Overbey

HB 175 by Rep. Harwell

HB 178 by Rep. Harwell

HB 182 by Rep. Cooper

HB 194 by Rep. Maggart

HB 209 by Rep. Lundberg

HB 252 by Rep. Harwell

HB 299 by Rep. Overbey

HB 312 by Rep. Briley

HB 394 by Rep. Coleman

HB 563 by Rep. Harwell

HB 600 by Rep. M. Turner

HB 668 by Rep. Swafford

HB 713 by Rep. Tindell

HB 956 by Rep. Maggart

HB 1100 by Rep. Buck

HB 1188 by Rep. S. Jones

HB 1351 by Rep. Coleman

HB 1480 by Rep. Buck

HB 1753 by Rep. Todd

HB 1819 by Rep. Rowland

HB 1837 by Rep. Coleman

HB 2097 by Rep. Maddox

HB 2169 by Rep. Maddox

HB 2262 by Rep. Odom

HB 2314 by Rep. Odom

HB 2321 by Rep. Coleman



The following bills were approved for passage to the Full Judiciary Committee:

- HB 1730 by Rep. Yokley de automated victim notification system
- HB 914 by Rep. Maggart, as amended, authorizes a governmental animal control or humane society to dispose of animals seized in animal cruelty prosecutions if a court ordered security deposit is not posted within 15 days of the order's



issuance. If the court determines the defendant is indigent, the court may suspend the posting of any security pending disposition of criminal charges.

- HB 314 by Rep. J. DeBerry expands the current law on scrap metal by requiring dealers in scrap copper to obtain the right thumbprint of each seller of copper and maintain a record of such print for a period of 5 years. Violation of record keeping will result in a Class C misdemeanor.
- HB 368 by Rep. Shepard authorizes an affiant, in the case of an affidavit of error, to attach a document including one previously recorded with corrections made by affiant when registering an affidavit of scrivener's error.
- HB 2000 by Rep. U. Jones authorizes criminal background checks for fire protection personnel and applicants in home rule municipalities (Cities of Memphis and Knoxville) upon the adoption of an ordinance by 2/3rds vote of the legislative body of such a municipality.

Civil Practice & Procedure Subcommittee

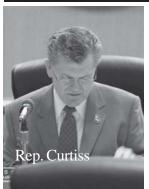
The Civil Practice & Procedure Subcommittee met to discuss thirty bills this week and heard lengthy testimony on Rep. Curtiss' HB 1879, which clarifies and makes some changes on the current lien law. HB 1297 by Rep. Todd was rolled for three weeks.

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Judiciary

Jamie Wyatt



•HB 1879 by Rep. Curtiss establishes and clarifies the administration and enforce-ment of mechanics and materialman's liens on real property and real property im-provements.

•HB 867 by Rep. Mumpower requires law

enforcement to take a DNA sample from any person arrested for a violent felony on or after July 1, 2007 upon a finding of probable cause for the arrest by a magistrate or a grand jury and maintained by TBI. If the charges are dismissed or the defendant is acquitted at trial, the TBI shall destroy the sample and records provided there are no other pending warrants for an arrest or felony conviction that would require samples retention. There are a number of offenses that will be considered violent felonies for the purpose of DNA collection.

Rolled 1 week:

HB 1338 by Rep. Briley

HB 27 by Rep. Briley

HB 1329 by Rep. Briley

HB 435 by Rep. DuBois

HB 106 by Rep. Shepard

HB 107 by Rep. Shepard

HB 108 by Rep. Shepard

HB 40 by Rep. Fraley

HB 1828 by Rep. Todd

HB 1269 by Rep. Lynn

HB 584 by Rep. Dubois

HB 721 by Rep. DuBois

HB 1222 by Rep. Gilmore

HB 902 by Rep. McDonald

HB 2096 by Rep. Maddox

HB 679 by Rep. Dunn

HB 1613 by Rep. Overbey

HB 1993 by Rep. Overbey

Rolled 2 weeks:

HB 148 by Rep. Dean

 ${\rm HB}$ 2248 by Rep. Ferguson HB 548 by Rep. Shepard

HB 1453 by Rep. Tidwell

Criminal Practice & Procedure Subcommittee

The Criminal Practice & Procedure Subcommittee met to discuss thirty-three bills.

The following bills were approved for passage to the Full Judiciary Committee:

- HB 164 by Rep. DuBois expands the offense of unlawful possession of a weapon to include not only handguns, but all firearms as defined by the code.
- HB 1198 by Rep. Pinion requires a hearing within five days of a police officer's filing of an application for a forfeiture warrant entitling the owner of such seized property to be heard.
- HB 1327 by Rep. Briley, as amended, broadens eligibility for prior service credits used to determine entry level compensation for district public defenders.
- HB 1328 by Rep. Briley, as amended, creates forty additional assistant district public defender positions and requires the district public defenders conference to prepare a report with recommendations regarding the specific judicial districts to be designated.
- HB 2267 by Rep. Shepard adds certain drugs to the controlled substances schedule. The bill makes it consistent with federal scheduling except for the presence of carisoprodol on the list.
- HB 311 by Rep. Briley transfers appointment power for three members of the Private Probation Services Council from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to the Governor.



Judiciary

Jamie Wyatt



•HB 362 by Rep. Rowland states that a bond is valid and binding upon a defendant's sureties until the time allowed for a defendant to appeal a guilty finding if a defendant executed the bond before a court to answer the criminal charge and there had not been a disposition of the charge at the time. The defendant will be required to make new bond to the court of criminal appeals unless there hasn't been a disposition

and the trial judge, after examination of the original bond sets out in a written order that the original bond is sufficient.

- HB 75 by Rep. Dean, as amended, allows a law enforcement officer acting in the course of his official duties to photograph, video, and/ or audio record a juvenile in the following circumstances: committing an offense; conducting a field sobriety tests; or the juvenile is a victim of an offense and consents to the photographing or recording as long as it is taken solely for use as evidence in a case being investigated.
- **HB 96 by Rep. DuBois** makes the selling, exchanging, or giving of a controlled substance or other illegal drug to a minor an enhancement factor for sentencing purposes.
- **HB 1907 by Rep. Rinks** revises the law governing self defense.
- HB 1783 by Rep. U. Jones authorizes a
 person in lawful possession of a motor vehicle
 or an invited passenger in such a vehicle to use
 force intended or likely to cause death or
 serious bodily injury to prevent being the victim
 of a homicide, aggravated rape, rape,
 kidnapping, aggravated kidnapping, especially
 aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery,
 especially aggravated robbery carjacking or

attempt to commit any of the named offenses. There is a presumption that the force is reasonable due to imminent death or bodily injury to self.

Rolled 1 week:

HB 388 by Rep. Crider

HB 392 by Rep. Crider

HB 456 by Rep. Sontany

HB 586 by Rep. DuBois

HB 601 by Rep. M. Turner

TID 001 by Kep. W. Turner

HB 1952 by Rep. Lynn

HB 1412 by Rep. Watson

HB 1317 by Rep. West

HB 1318 by Rep. West

HB 582 by Rep. DuBois

HB 901 by Rep. Maggart

HB 953 by Rep. Maggart

HB 1285 by Rep. Crider

HB 128 by Rep. Bell

Rolled 2 weeks:

HB 927 by Rep. DuBois

HB 1887 by Rep. Tindell

HB 411 by Rep. Todd

Rolled 3 weeks:

HB 1030 by Rep. Todd

HB 852 by Rep. Eldridge

Off Notice:

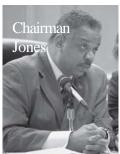
HB 583 by Rep. DuBois

HB 576 by Rep. Sontany

HB 1184 by Rep. S. Jones



Lawrence Hall, Jr.



This week in **State and Local Government** full committee, thirty-eight bills were on the calendar for consideration. Fifteen bills were passed to Calendar and Rules, seventeen were passed to Finance, Ways, and Means, and the others were rolled or taken off notice.

Calendar and Rules:

<u>-HB 1464 by Fitzhugh</u> – This bill revises the conflict of interest provisions that are applicable to career service employees.

<u>-HB 1471 by Fitzhugh</u> – This bill authorizes municipalities having charter provisions or private act requirements governing competitive bidding and purchasing to establish exemptions to the competitive bidding process by ordinance as an alternative to establishing the exemptions by charter amendment only.

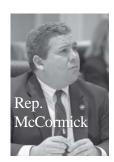
<u>-HB 1736 by Winningham</u> – This bill allows Oliver Springs to enact a hotel-motel tax by adoption of an ordinance by a two-thirds vote.

<u>-HB 1170 by Windle</u> – This bill requires an adjutant general of the state's military department to be a federally recognized general officer and member of the Nation Guard.

<u>-HB 1564 by Rowe</u> – This bill authorizes the Shelby County mayor to appoint a board of directors to govern the county's emergency communications district.

<u>-HB 648 by M. Turner</u> – This bill prohibits the commissioner of correction and other prison contractors from accepting out-of-state prisoners unless the sending state agrees to accept the prisoner back upon such prisoner's release.

<u>-HB 923 by McCormick</u> – This bill permits taxpayers of commercial property in Hamilton County to appeal tax valuations directly to the state board of equalization with the written consent of the assessor of property.



-SJR 106 by Herron - This

resolution designates March 28, 2007 as "TISL Day at the Legislature."

<u>-HB 1785 by U. Jones</u> – This bill authorizes the county mayor to appoint the county fire chief with the approval of the county legislative.

<u>-HB 2235 by Litz</u> – This bill authorizes the department of corrections to spend funds from the confiscated cash fund for accepted investigative techniques and interdiction efforts to combat drug trafficking.

<u>-HB 1761 by Moore</u> – Authorizes assessors to set a date within which a taxpayer or owner may seek concurrence to directly appeal valuation of certain property to the state board of equalization.

-HB 1762 by Moore – This bill will allow taxpayers to return a schedule of tangible personal property used in the taxpayer's business or profession to the assessor on March 1 of each year.

<u>-HB 1763 by Moore</u> – This bill clarifies that a schedule of tangible personal property may be amended by the taxpayer if it is timely filed with the assessor.

<u>-HB 1909 by Rinks</u> – This bill adds Decatur County to the list of counties where taxpayers may not appeal directly to the state board of equalization.

<u>-HB 1758 by Todd</u> – This bill authorizes counties that create county-wide fire districts to include performance-based criteria in interlocal agreements and contracts for fire protection services.

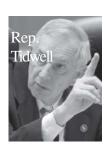


Lawrence Hall, Jr.

Finance, Ways, and Means:

<u>-HB 1560 by Curtiss</u> – This bill requires full-time, part-time, or volunteer firefighters that are hire or accepted on or after July 1, 2007, to meet certain minimum training requirements.

<u>-HB 1741 by Curtiss</u> – Require salary supplements for highway patrol officers who receive certification from the peace officers standards and training commission.



<u>-HB 722 by Winningham</u> – This bill establishes a minimum statutory bas amount of \$12,000 to be appropriated annually to each county to aid the counties in carrying out their statutory duties regarding emergency management.

<u>-HB 327 by Tidwell</u> – This bill expands the Tennessee River resort district act to include Humphreys and Stewart counties.

<u>-HB 947 by Hood</u> – This bill requires the state to reimburse a county for incarcerating a person upon revocation of the person's probation.

<u>-HB 622 by M. Turner</u> – This bill creates a Class E felony offense for providing a public servant with documentation falsely stating or implying that a person is a legally documented immigrant to the United States for the purpose of obtaining certain public benefits including TennCare.

<u>-HB 815 by McDaniel</u> – Extends the initial reporting deadline for the special joint committee to study open government laws until December 1, 2007. The bill also extends the final reporting deadline until February 1, 2008.

<u>-HB 382 by Rowland</u> — Authorizes a municipal corporation to obtain a temporary easement to construct or provide maintenance to water or sewer lines on private property if the municipal corporation enters into a hold-harmless agreement with the owner of the

property.

<u>-HB 572 by Rowland</u> – This bill requires municipal governments to provide notice to a person prior to forwarding unpaid parking tickets to a collection agency.

<u>-HB 845 by Eldridge</u> – Adds Madison County to the Community Redevelopment Act of 1998.

-HB 850 by Eldridge – This bill permits inmates who received a specified degree prior to July 1, 2006 to receive the same 60 days of educational good time credit authorized for those inmates receiving degrees after such date.

<u>-HB 1784 by U. Jones</u> – Authorizes certain counties to establish and operate emergency medical services and to charge fees or rates for such services.

<u>-HB 287 by Moore</u> – Includes the employees of the department of agriculture's division of forestry to those eligible to receive firefighter educational incentive pay.

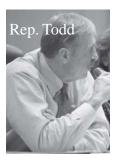
<u>-HB 444 by Moore</u> – This bill requires the comptroller to conduct annual audits of Tennessee municipal league and Tennessee county services association.

<u>-HB 1760 by Moore</u> – This bill allows an assessor to correct forced assessment of tangible personal property if it is determined that the taxpayer was not in business as of the assessment date.

<u>-HB 1910 by Rinks</u> – Requires that mass mailings by members of the general assembly to persons in the

members district that are mailed within 30 days of an election to be paid out of the members campaign account.

<u>-HB 407 by Todd</u> – This bill requires state agencies to verify the immigration status prior to receiving state benefits.





Lawrence Hall, Jr.

Rolled 1 Week:

Opryland Hotel.



-HB 1809 by Pruitt – This bill authorizes the Nashville Metro council to implement a funding mechanism to be used to finance a new convention center.

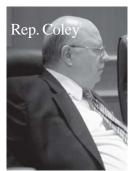
<u>-HB 419 by S. Jones</u> – This bill revises statutory language to replace "handicapped voter" with "voter with

a disability" or "voters with disabilities."

<u>-HB 577 by DuBois</u> – This bill deletes the statutory provision that prevents local governments from purchasing motor vehicles included in federal general administration contracts or federal open purchase contracts.

Off Notice:

<u>-HB 379 by Briley</u> – This bill requires the Tennessee Ethics Commission to be subject to the open meetings and public records statutes.



<u>-HB 1240 by Coley</u> – This bill allows members of the ethics commission to hold or qualify for judicial office with no waiting period.

State Government

The State Government subcommittee considered sixteen bills

this week. Five bills were passed to full committee for consideration next week and all others were rolled to a later date.

Full Committee:

<u>-HB 2268 by Odom</u> – This bill grants the Governor 30 additional days to complete the process of appointing a TBI director.

<u>-HR 63 by Tindell</u> – This bill approves the 2007-2008 501(c)(3) annual events by the House of Representatives.

-HB 1496 by L. Miller – This bill allows persons with a license violation for unlawfully selling or providing a product or substance to a minor to become a lottery retailer if any sentence has been completed and the license has been restored.

<u>-HB 1574 by L. Miller</u> – This bill clarifies that the lottery provisions are controlling in regard to assignment of lottery prizes.

<u>-HB 1786 by U. Jones</u> – This bill imposes certain requirements upon any governmental entity that chooses to discharge, reduce, delay or otherwise compromise the payment of any tax receivables that have been previously sold.

Rolled, Off Notice, or Failed:

-HB 466 by Fitzhugh – 1 Week

-HB 840 by Favors – 1 Week

-HB 1172 by Windle – 2 Week

-HB 620 by M. Turner – 1 Week

-HB 2309 by Bass - 1 Week

-HB 2291 by M. Turner – 1 Week

-HB 1355 by Hackworth – 1 Week

-HB 2078 by Maddox – 1 Week

-HB 2079 by Maddox – 1 Week

-HB 1276 by Lynn – 1 Week

-HB 1243 by Kelsey - 1 Week



Lawrence Hall, Jr.

Local Government

This week in **Local Government** subcommittee there were fourteen bills on the calendar. The committee passed five bills to full committee to be considered next week and the others were either rolled, taken off notice, or set for a special calendar.

Full Committee:

<u>-HB 1187 by S. Jones</u> – This bill creates an exemption for Davidson County that allows a business to cease operation for up to 30 months and avoid zoning changes for businesses that sell used automobiles.

<u>-HB 1194 by Harmon</u> – This bill allows charitable, nonprofit, or political organizations to obtain a special occasion license for an event in a political subdivision that has approved the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises.

<u>-HB 1968 by Armstrong</u> – This bill includes as "certain unfunded pension obligations," for purposes of local government public obligations law, pension benefits for past service of employees of a local government whose pension benefits arise from a defined benefit pension plan.

<u>-HB 1470 by Fitzhugh</u> – This bill makes some technical changes to reporting deadlines and confidentiality requirements with regard to property tax filings.

<u>-HB 1610 by L. Miller</u> – This bill extends to Shelby County the authority that municipalities have to inspect, test, measure, and weigh any article for consumption or use within the county, and charge reasonable fees, and provide standards of weights, tests, and measures.

Bills Rolled or Taken Off Notice:

-HB 632 by Overbey – 1 Week

-HB 1180 by S. Jones – 1 Week

-HB 2214 by Crider - Last Calendar

-HB 1033 by J. DeBerry – 1 Week

-HB 1239 by Kelsey – 1 Week

-HB 1336 by Briley – 3 Weeks

-HJR 190 by Sontany - Off Notice

-HB 1345 by Shepard – 1 Week

-HB 1608 by Todd – Annexation Special Calendar

Elections

This week in **Elections Subcommittee** eight bills were on the calendar. Two bills were sent to full committee to be considered next week.

<u>-HB 21 by Shepard</u> – This bill will allow persons who will be 18 years of age by the general election to vote in the primary election.

<u>-HB 280 by Mumpower</u> – This bill rearranges placement of offices for Supreme Court judge, court appeals judge, and court of criminal appeals judge on the ballot.

Bills Rolled or Taken Off Notice:

-HB 666 by Baird – 1 Week

-HB 554 by Crider – 2 Weeks

-HB 1442 by Dunn – 1 Week

-HB 17 by Shepard - Off Notice

-HB 1279 by Lynn – 1 Week



Chairman Pinion

Transportation

Jeremy L. Elrod



Full Committee

The **House Transportation Committee** convened on March 27, 2007 to consider ten bills. **HB851** (Eldridge) was deferred two weeks.

The following bills were referred to the Calendar and Rules

Committee:

HB2335 (Harmon) – Requires transportation plan prepared by commissioner be consistent with federal transportation planning requirements and include consideration of various types of transportation.

SJR157 – Designates April 2-6, 2007 as "Work Zone Awareness Week."

The following bills were referred to the **Finance**, **Ways** and **Means Committee**:

HB1969 (Armstrong) – "Casey C. Jones Memorial Bridge" highway signs on a bridge spanning Norfolk-Southern railroad tracks on Magnolia Avenue (U.S. Highway 11/U.S. Highway 70/State Route 1) in Knoxville. The bill was amended for the signs to be paid for by state funds.

HB1970 (Armstrong) – "Robert J. Booker Bridge" highway signs on a bridge spanning James White Parkway (State Route 158) on Summit Hill Drive in Knoxville. The bill was amended for the signs to be paid for by state funds.

HB3 (Pruitt) – "Rosa L. Parks Boulevard" highway signs on segments of Metro Center Boulevard and 8th Avenue North (U.S. Highway 41-A, State Route 12) in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County. The bill was amended for Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County to take all appropriate action to change the designation of the route to "Rosa L. Parks Boulevard" and to erect suitable signs or affix suitable

markers designating the route as the "Rosa L. Parks Boulevard."

HB701 (McCord) – As amended, "Governor Sam Houston Memorial Highway" highway signs on a segment of U.S. Highway 411 in Blount County.

HB844 (Buck) – "Colonel Bernie S. Bass Highway" highway signs on a segment of State Route 53/State Route 141 between New Middleton and Gordonsville. The bill was

amended for the signs to be paid for by state funds.

The following bills were passed by the committee and will but put into the **Omnibus Special** License Plate bill:

HB2050 (Armstrong)

– Authorizes issuance of Diabetes Awareness new specialty



earmarked license plates. The bill allocates 50 percent of funds derived from sale of the plates to Tennessee Division of American Diabetes Association.

HB838 (Tidwell) – Authorizes issuance of Trout Unlimited new specialty earmarked license plates. The bill allocates 50 percent of funds derived from sale of the plates to Trout Unlimited.

Public Safety & Rural Roads Subcommittee

The Public Safety & Rural Roads Subcommittee met March 27, 2007, to consider seven bills. Action on HB1174 (Windle) was deferred for two weeks. HB2042 (Shaw) and HB1381 (S. Jones) were rolled one week. HB183 (B. Cooper) was taken off notice. A motion to reconsider last week's action on HB491 (Gresham) was adopted. Therefore, HB491 will be on the subcommittee's April 3 calendar.



Transportation

Jeremy L. Elrod

The following bills were referred to the full **Transportation Committee**:

HB180 (B. Cooper) – As amended, authorizes persons in Shelby County to have a driver license reinstated once the person has entered into a payment plan, and it shall not be suspended for so long as the licensee complies with the provisions of the plan.

HB1407 (B. Cooper) – Places a \$400 cap on the restoration or reinstatement fees imposed for certain suspensions related to traffic citations, effective until July 1, 2008.

HB481 (Harmon) – Increases motor vehicle registration fees \$16.00 and allocates the revenues to highway funds, local government, and mass transit

Public Transportation & Highways Subcommittee

The **Public Transportation & Highways Subcommittee** met on March 27, 2007 to consider five bills. **HB1173** (Windle) was rolled two weeks. **HB366** (Rowland) was deferred to the last calendar. **HB226** (Moore) was taken off notice.

The following bills were passed to the full **Transportation Committee**:

HJR208 (Shepard) – "Daniel F. Hal Memorial Bridge" highway signs on a bridge over Beaver Dam Creek on S.R. 96 in Dickson County.

HB627 (Overbey) – "Clifford H. 'Bo' Henry Highway" highway signs on a segment of U.S. Highway 411 in Blount County. An amendment was adopted to clarify the segment of highway to be named and directed that the signs be placed out the city limits of Maryville.



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